

[26th August 1926]

Medium of instruction in Government girls' schools.

* 2323 Q.—Mr. K. RAGHUCHANDRA BALLAL: Will the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Educational Rules insist upon instruction being given in all subjects in the vernaculars alone up to Third Form in all Government girls' schools in the Presidency; and

(b) whether it is a fact that contrary to those rules instruction in the Government Girls' School at Mangalore is being imparted in English only from the First Form onwards?

A.—(a) Under rule 60 of the Madras Educational Rules, managers of schools should, unless they have obtained the permission of the District Educational Officer to do otherwise, adopt the vernacular of the pupils as the medium of instruction up to and including the Third Form. Under rule 62, the Director may relax the above rule in the case of Secondary schools for girls.

(b) In the Government Girls' School, Mangalore, English is used as the medium of instruction as the majority of the pupils in the school speak either Konkani or Tulu, which are not written languages, in their homes and therefore find it difficult to study Kanarese.

Mr. K. RAGHUCHANDRA BALLAL:—"May I know if there are any classes below the First Form in Government girls' schools?"

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO:—"I want notice."

Mr. K. RAGHUCHANDRA BALLAL:—"Sir, in answer to clause (b), outside that majority of pupils in the classes who are speaking Konkani or Tulu, may I know if the pupils are taught in the same language or in any different language?"

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO:—"Konkani is different from Tulu."

Mr. K. RAGHUCHANDRA BALLAL:—"Evidently, then, there is a third language. Of all the groups, which forms the biggest group?"

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO:—"My hon. Friend can get information from the Census Report."

Mr. K. RAGHUCHANDRA BALLAL:—"The Census Report is not likely to furnish the information with respect to a particular school."

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The Minister wants time."

Mr. K. RAGHUCHANDRA BALLAL:—"May I ask one more question as to what the vernacular of the district is?"

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO:—"Kanarese."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"If Kanarese is the vernacular of the district, why is it that it is not taught in the Government schools?"

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO:—"The answer is given in clause (b)."